

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 have been canceled. Claims 21 - 68 have been added. Therefore, claims 21 - 68 are pending in the application.

Section 103(a) Rejections:

The Office Action rejected claims 1-10 and 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cook et al. (U.S. Patent 5,727,950) (hereinafter “Cook”) in view of Wiley (U.S. Patent 6,003,063) (hereinafter “Wiley”). Claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cook in view of Lannert et. al. (U.S. Patent 6,101,489) (hereinafter “Lannert”). These rejections are moot in light of the cancellation of claims 1-20.

In regard to new claim 21, the cited art does not teach or suggest maintaining a cache specific to help data for one or more user interface components and in response to receiving a request for help data for a newly referenced one of the components, supplying the help data for the referenced component for user presentation if the help data for the referenced component is not in the cache, loading the help data for the referenced component into the cache.

Cook teaches system and method for interactive, adaptive, and individualized computer-assisted instruction that provides a virtual agent or tutor adapted to each student (Cook, column 5, lines 12-24). Cook’s virtual agent present educational material and is responsive to the student actions and requests (Cook, column 12, lines 46-51, and column 13, lines 8-27). While Cook does teach that the virtual agent provides help data to the student, Cook teaches that the system is advantageously organized *to wait for student* and timer input events and then to respond appropriately to those events (Cook, column 37, line 66 – column 38, line 2). Cook *fails to teach maintaining a cache specific to help data for one or more user interface components* as applicant’s claims recite.

Wiley teaches the linking of an application to one of several help programs selected by a constructor process or sub-routine based on predefined prerequisite conditions including the availability and accessibility of prerequisite files. By referencing the constructor, instead of a specific help program, the application can be more easily use multiple, or upgraded help programs without requiring modification or re-installation of the application (Wiley, abstract, column, 2 lines 29-42, and column 3, lines 10-21). Thus, Wiley teaches the use of a specially built constructor concerned with choosing and loading an appropriate secondary program, and fails to teach anything about caching help data for user-interface components as in applicant's claims.

Thus, Cook in view of Wiley fails to teach maintaining a cache specific to help data for one or more user interface components and in response to receiving a request for help data for a newly referenced one of the components, supplying the help data for the referenced component for user presentation if the help data for the referenced component is not in the cache, loading the help data for the referenced component into the cache.

The cited art fails to teach or suggest the other new independent claims for similar reasons.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If any extension of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) is necessary to prevent the above referenced application from becoming abandoned, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5681-85700/RCK.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert C. Kowert

Reg. No. 39,255

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C.
P.O. Box 398
Austin, TX 78767-0398
Phone: (512) 853-8850

Date: April 20, 2004